a transducer basecoat portion attached to the rear portion of the slider body and containing the transducer.

3. The slider of claim 2, where an interface of the first material and the second material comprises a latitudinal plane substantially perpendicular to the air bearing surface.

4. The slider of claim 3 wherein a thickness of the first material is as much as about 15 times the thickness of the second material.

5. The slider of claim 4 wherein a thickness of the first material is as little as about half the thickness of the second material.

6. The slider of claim 3, wherein the transducer portion comprises the second material.

7. The slider of claim 6, where a lapping durability of the first material is greater than a lapping durability of the second material.

8. The slider of claim 6, where the first material is AlTiC and the second material is Al_2O_3.

9. (Amended) A method of manufacturing a slider body which supports a transducer so that the transducer is at a closest position with respect to a disc during flight, the method comprising the steps of:

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forming a composite wafer comprising a layer of a first material and a layer of a second material, the composite wafer comprising a plurality of joined slider bodies;